

Thirty Years Ago . . .

From the Journal of April 1925

NOVA SCOTIA NEWS

"On February 25, the Halifax branch of the Medical Society of Nova Scotia held a clinical session at the Victoria General Hospital. Cases presented included one of cerebral syphilis and one of paralysis agitans, demonstrated by Dr. Silver; one in which frequent, profuse hæmoptyses were found to be dependent on mitral stenosis, shown by Dr. K. A. MacKenzie; and one of unusually extensive acne vulgaris shown by Dr. Mack. Dr. Johnston demonstrated a number of x-ray plates illustrative of redundancy of the colon, and Dr. Nicholls demonstrated specimens, one of mixed sarcoma and carcinoma and one of round celled sarcoma of the testicle. Doctors G. W. Grant, K. A. MacKenzie, Nicholls, Burris, Murphy, Carney, Little and H. G. Grant took part in the discussions. On March 11, the subject for discussion was blood chemistry.

Dr. V. N. MacKay opened with a general consideration of the subject but with particular reference to acidosis. Dr. K. A. MacKenzie followed, dealing with the blood chemistry of diabetes, while Dr. Churchill took up the blood chemistry of renal conditions. A lively debate followed, which was participated in by Doctors Birt, Gibbs, Young, H. K. MacDonald, Maclellan and those who initiated the discussion."

"Vigorous opposition is being waged to a by-law recently adopted by the City Health Board of Halifax, to become effective June 20, prohibiting the sale of any milk in the city which is not certified or pasteurized. The City Council has asked the provincial government to disallow the by-law. At the public hearings there has been a large attendance, showing an interest which is seldom shown in public health matters. The sentiment appears to be strongly against the enforcement of the by-law. Medical opinion is divided, perhaps not so much on the matter of pasteurization as on the ground that proper enforcement of the by-law will prove as difficult as that of other prohibitory laws."

QUEBEC NEWS

"At the annual meeting of the Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal, held recently, Sir Vincent Meredith, Bart., was re-elected President of the Board of Governors. Two new appointments were made, Dr. Duncan MacCallum as assistant physician, and Dr. W. T. S. Mitchell as associate psychiatrist. It was announced that the excavation work for the new maternity wing of the hospital had been completed, and construction work was now commencing. During the year the admittances to the hospital had numbered 9,070. These included 19 free patients and 3,000 private patients. Of these 352 patients had died, making the death rate for the year 3.8%."

"At a meeting of the Montreal City Council attention was called to the insufficiency of the city hospital accommodation, and a motion was proposed that the city and provincial government should either contribute to the erection of a city hospital or should advance funds to permit an extension of the Montreal General Hospital so as to enable it to meet the present and future needs of the population. The great increase in the size of the city during the past few years had taken place without any appreciable increase in the hospital accommodation. The motion was carried unanimously without calling for a vote."

ONTARIO NEWS

"The second annual Inter-Relations dinner of the medical profession and the public was held recently at the King Edward Hotel, Toronto. About one hundred members of the Association sat down to dinner with guests selected for the occasion.

"Following the dinner, short addresses on the work of the Inter-Relations Committee and the activities present and proposed of the Ontario Medical Association were delivered by the Chairman, Dr. H. W. Hill; the President, Dr. Geo. S. Young, and the Secretary, Dr. T. C. Routley.

"The Honourable G. Howard Ferguson, Prime Minister of the province, who was the main speaker of the evening, delighted his audience with many references to the broad subject of education, as viewed by him, not only as Premier, but as Minister of Education of the province. Mr. Ferguson stressed the fact that education should be made available for all. In referring to higher education, the Premier pointed out that it costs the State approximately \$500 per year per individual for university education. He announced that it was his intention to decentralize, as far as possible, higher education. His proposed plan suggests that some of the collegiate institutes in the province undertake to carry their students along over the subjects now occupying very largely the first two years of the university training.

"This was the first public announcement of this proposed policy. Mr. Ferguson complimented the Association on the good which it was doing and expressed his pleasure at being present at a gathering where the profession and so many branches and workers of the public were represented."

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